THE

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A REPUBLICAN, MISCELLANEOUS, LITERARY PAPER.

BY RUSSEL & DAVIS, CONCORD, NEWH.

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Political Miscellany.

FROM THE CENTINEL.

FRENCH INFLUENCE,

DEMONSTRATED.

MR. RUSSEL, *No. XI.*

HAVING proved to the satisfaction of every impartial and unbiassed reader, that, whatever might have been the real object of Patriot BLOUNT, the British government could possibly derive no advantage from his nefarious scheme, and of course, upon the ordinary principles of human nature, that they could not have favored the plan, I shall endeavour, as I have engaged, to prove, that our Good ALLIES the French are really at the bottom of this singular conspiracy. Before I enter upon what I deem an irresistable phalanx of evidence, let us advert for a moment to the illiberal abuse which has upon this occasion been heaped upon the Secretary of State. Mr. Pickering is well known to have been one of the honest, most honest, and consistent American Republicans in the United States. The purity of his character has been so exemplary, and his patriotism and virtue have been so inflexible, that the tongue of malice has not ventured until of late, to utter one sinister against his reputation. If his character has ever suffered, it was by the immoderate applauses bestowed on him by the Aurora and Chronicle scribblers, two years since, when he expressed in an Indian conference, his sentiments of British interference, his republicanism and consistency were the "chorus" of every *French* or *Jacobine* "*ditty.*" He was in their eyes, a man of talents, of real discernment—of *unspotted* virtue—of *genuine* republicanism. But as soon as he dares to open his eyes to *French* abuses—to *Gallic* insults—he is at once deprived of all his abilities—stripped of all his virtue—corrupted by British Gold, and is the hardy advocate of aristocracy. These are plain facts and LEONIDAS has the Chronicles before him which are the records of this "*outside*" consistency. But how has he been culpable in the affair of Blount? In what measure has he betrayed the interests of his country?—The only charge that I recollect to have seen is, that he communicated the information to the British minister and thus enabled him to secrete testimony & elude detection. This is a vague declaration and

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will not bear the test of scrutiny. In the *first* place as the representative of the sovereignty of a nation in amity with us, he was entitled to this respect. It would have been unjust, indecorous and contrary to the ordinary maxims of equity, to have presumed his guilt upon a simple assertion of an individual, in a paper not under the solemnities of law, and which might have proved a forgery. Even the Senate, and House, refused to take measures against the *writer* himself, until the handwriting had been proved by witnesses under *oath*. If the government had adopted any measures to the disgrace of the British Minister without demanding an explanation in the first instance, it would have been a national insult, and might have proved the pretext for a rupture between the countries. But I demand in what mode, this matter could have been conducted with more security or with greater advantage? The British minister was protected by his office. His person and his papers were not liable to search upon a charge of this kind. No evidence therefore could have been drawn from this source. If it had been in the *first* instance communicated to the Senate & House of Representatives, the culprit himself in *one* branch, and his "*general*" brother in the *other*, would have had instant information of the charge. But in *my* opinion, strong evidence of the judicious conduct of Mr. Pickering, and of the innocence of Mr Liston, results from the facts in this part of the proceedings.

Although Mr. Liston had notice of this discovery several days before it was communicated to the Senate, yet Mr. Blount had no knowledge of the charge—does not abscond—secretes no papers—but as soon as it is made known to the Senate, he immediately absconds, and either destroys, or secretes every document that would serve as a clue to the dark transaction. Let not the jacobins *pretend* that he had notice of the discovery, but chose to meet his fate, for these same hirelings of France have deeply criminated the Senate for requiring too small security, and have alledged that he has *actually* absconded These circumstances are in my opinion a full refutation of the infamous calumnies fabricated to injure the Secretary of State, and I have no doubt, that he will ere long add to these reasons, a still stronger one, "that he knew, at this *very time*, that this plot had originated in an opposite quarter, and was the result of "*republican*" and not of "monarchical" intrigue."

In the proof, that this was really a *French plot*, we must not expect *direct and positive* testimony.

The very idea of a *plot* implies *secrecy*, and we must look for that sort of evidence which can usually be obtained to establish such things.

If it has been made apparent that Great britain could not prosecute this plan with advantage; let us see whether Spain or France is under the same disability? As to Spain, I have no reason to doubt that uninfluenced, and unterrified she would most ardently seek to maintain harmony and peace with the

the United States. From the peace of 1783, until the treaty with her in 1794, sensible that we should eventually possess the unlimited navigation of the Mississippi, she was desirous to cede that right in express terms, upon certain qualifications as to the *period* of possession. When she found our government unwilling to accept it under *any* limitations, and when Mr. Jay's treaty had cut off the hope of aid from Great-britain, she very readily agreed to the unconditional surrender, and executed the treaty with Mr. Pinckney. No reasons can possibly exist to alter the *policy* of that court, and if Spain was not now in *leading strings*, we should never have been mortified at the defection of an American Senator, and the posts upon the Mississippi would have been *honorably* given up.

No man in his senses can believe that the only remaining branch of the "*royal*" family of *Bourbon* can be very sincere in fraternizing with those sans culottes! who profess eternal enmity to kings, nor doubt whether the ridiculous manifestos of the Chevalier Yrujo, are really his unbiassed sentiments, or dictated by the *diplomacy* of France! In short, no man, who knows the anxiety of the Spaniards for the safety of their colonies, can believe that they can relish the introduction of French troops into the heart of their country, nor hazard the event of a conflict with their neighbors, the United States.

But a man in duresse is not accountable for his conduct, and a conquered nation must implicitly obey the will of the conqueror.—Henceforth, let us not talk of Spanish aggression, Spanish insult, or Spanish perfidy; but let us call things by their right names, and place to the account of the French Republic, the conduct of Spain.

That France conceives, that the *possession* of *that* country west of the United States, of Canada, and perhaps a *piece* of *that fertile part* of our territory so romantically described by travellers, would be really a *valuable* acquisition to her, there remains no *doubt*. Entertaining this opinion, therefore it is unnecessary to inquire whether it would *really* advance her grandeur or promote her interest. Nations who *have power*, do not always consult their *best* interests, but they always gratify their passions, and their desires, whether the means be just or unjust. France always had been under a *monarchy*, and under a *modern* Republic it does not appear to have abated—an ardent passion for glory and conquest—The pride of the grand Monarque and of the *mighty* Republic, appears to be the same, although the names are in some measure changed.

She has conquered Europe, England excepted, and she feels a strong desire to regain her *lost territory* in this Western world. Early in this war, she conceived the design of possessing Louisiana and Canada. The expedition under Gen. Clark, in direct violation of our neutrality, is *one flagrant* proof of it, and the correspondence between Mr. Jefferson and Governor Shelby, of Kentucky, deposited in the archieves of our nation, is another evidence of this design.——

France

France then had Austria, Spain and England to encounter. She was divided and torn to pieces by internal factions.—Is it likely that she has abated in her ambition, now she has humbled Austria, subjugated Spain, and nearly annihilated Great-britain? Besides, is it not really important to France to gain a territory in America, to operate as a counterpoise to the colonies of Great-britain? If she can *really* command a fertile country in that western wilderness, will it not be an useful and important check to her *old rival* Great-britain, and will it not favor her darling plan of acquiring an ascendency in the Councils of the United States? In fine, would not such a colony be extremely useful in furnishing an excellent *seminary* for 500,000 citizen soldiers, who would most certainly disturb the peace, if they did not destroy the government, of their country?

Can it then be doubted that it would be as much for the interest of France as it would be injurious to Great-britain, to favor such a project? Without any pretensions to any uncommon foresight, I have long anticipated such an attempt, and if the public will have patience to read *one more* tedious essay, I will show that they have not only entertained the idea, but that they have in every way, with indefatigable industry, with inflexible perseverance, with insidious policy, prosecuted, and had well nigh *ripened* the design.

LEONIDAS.

☞ *The writings of* LEONIDAS *are worthy attentive perusal.*

For the NEW STAR.

IMAGINARY STOCK:

A NEW SHOP,

Kept by CRESUS, & Co.

[*From the* FIRST *Proprietor.*]

Buy the Truth, and sell it not.

HOW regardless are we of this old proverb, in our dealings in the Great Fare of the world. There is no need of arguments to prove that great quantities of Imaginary Stock are daily bought and sold in this open market. And what is more evident still, tho' somewhat paradoxical, if a man have a large quantity of this stock on hand, and fails in cheating others, yet he never fails to cheat himself. Which proves what a certain author says, "there is as much pleasure in being cheated as to cheat." We frequently hear of partiality in a Judge, ignorance in a Justice of Peace, and dishonesty in a Cobler; which is the most useful man of the three, I shall not determine: If they will not regard my motto, I cannot help it, they choose imaginary stock. The Miser foregoes the pleasure of present enjoyment, in order to accumulate wealth; he exerts all his industry; is at the greatest pains, and even adds to the catalogue of St. PAUL's sufferings in his exertions: yet, prodigious! his fears of leaving, and his inability of enjoying, his wealth, are strong indications that his actual stock of silver and gold, produces but *imaginary* happiness!—

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The Usurer, who preys upon the necessities of the poor man; puts his money out at the rate of 200 pr. cent.; flatters himself with future ease and independence; but when he looks into the STATUTE and reads the *penalty of twenty per cent. for the unlawful use of money*," he trembles; and his conscience (if he be so unfortunate as to have any) and the STATUTE tell him, his prospects of happiness are *imaginary*. The Duellist, in defiance of the laws of God and his Country, and contrary to the dictates of a rational mind, challenges his neighbor to combat! Murder! because forsooth his *honor* is at stake, most convincingly proves, that his stock of honor and integrity, is *imaginary*. The Slanderer, who delights in hearing the faults of others; who is ready to believe the little blackening accounts reported of his neighbor; and more inclined to be credulous on the uncharitable side than otherwise; and takes pleasure in spreading and propagating such reports as tend to the dishonor of others; is guilty of great injustice, and possesses a large stock of envy and ill nature: but whatever may be his profession, his stock of religion, charity, and humanity, is evidently *imaginary*. The Divine, who has taken upon himself to negotiate the great affairs between God and man, whose duty it is to be like him whose ambassador he is, ought to be a pattern of benevolence, charity, patience and humility; yet when we see him treat his fellow mortals with insolence, and view the sufferings of the poor men with an unfeeling heart, "passing by upon the other" side, surely we must conclude, (however uncharitable) that his stock of religion is *IMAGINARY*. The Hypocrite's hope is imaginary stock, and so is his religion; notwithstanding his long prayers, his constant zeal, and his demure countenance: such stock may leave him for a time, but it will depreciate in its value, if possible, more than French assignats. Those, well improved in Real Stock. [illegible] to attend to this, will [illegible] all the bright prospects that they shall find in their great profession, that "to say and do, and not do it not," will produce that happiness, which is NOT *imaginary*.

FOR THE NEW STAR.

Messrs. RUSSELL & DAVIS,

Publish this Sermon in the STAR, if you judge it worthy.

YORICK.

YORICK—No. I.

2 Sam. xx. 9. 10. *And Joab said to Amasa, art thou in health, my brother? And Joab took Amasa by the beard with the right hand, to kiss him. But Amasa took no heed to the sword that was in Joab's hand, so he smote him therewith in the fifth rib.*

I WILL not detain you, with a lengthy introduction; but come immediately to observe upon my text, that the perfidious, ambitious and blood-thirsty Joab, imposed upon the unsuspecting Ama-

sa,

ſa. by profeſſions of Fraternity; and proſtituted (like his grandſon Judas) the *token* of Friendſhip to the baſe purpoſe of *murder!*—Amaſa, too credulous indeed, and forgetting the former baſeneſs and treachery of this pretended brother, took no heed of the ſword in his hand, and thus fell a victim to his unrelenting jealouſy and ambition.

Much has been ſaid about French Fraternity! but while they have *taken us by the beard to kiſs*, I fear we have been too heedleſs of their SWORD. Americans! have we not been ſufficiently ſtabbed in the fifth rib; (nay in every rib) to excite us to take warning, and be on our guard againſt the political hypocriſy of our *Joabeen* fraterniſing Friends, leſt, like poor Amaſa, our bowels be rent our, and we wallow in our blood!

FROM THE *FARMER'S WEEKLY MUSEUM.*

Common Senſe, in Diſhabille.

No. VII.

THE SHORT WAY TO POVERTY.

WEALTH, like the oak, is not the growth of a year; it increaſes by little & little. The daily addition of pence makes the full purſe in time. But the full purſe remark, can be emptied in a moment. Habitual idleneſs, the repeated glaſs of bitters in the morning, mug of ſip at noon, and hand of cards at night, are the ſure conductors to poverty; but there is a ſhorter cut. The plant and tree that grow the faſteſt commonly decay the firſt; the ſwift runner is ſooneſt tired; and the ſhorteſt way to find poverty is to graſp too eagerly at wealth. Witneſs Richard Runfaſt; he had five or ſix hundred pounds left him by a legacy, opened a ſhop of goods in the country and was doing very well, while under his uncle Cateſu's eye; a hundred pounds clear gain at the year's end: but this would not do; he muſt move to Boſton; that is the place to make worlds of wealth in a minute. High rents, expenſive living, a few bad debts make his profit and loſs about equal the firſt year: this he calls a good beginning. He muſt make a bolder puſh. Navigation is the next ſtep. He ſtrains

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his credit to the furtheſt limit, charters a veſſel, puts on board four times as much as he is worth; the whole is a float and he is calculating upon a hundred per cent profit. He intends to fit out his own veſſel next year; rides into the country to engage timber; fancies every oak he ſees growing will, ſome time or other, be ſawn into plank for his merchantmen. Stop, fancy. Liſten, avarice, and hear the news. He is counting his chickens before they are hatched. The brotherly French have ſeized his ſhip and cargo for his part of the natural debt of gratitude we owe them. Richard has run too faſt. I need not inform you he has ſhut up ſhop. O the Britiſh treaty! why did not Jay inſert an article that ſhould prevent robbers on land from robbing at ſea?

CHASTITY.

A PERSON of birth and fortune, ſtruck with the beauty of a Lacedemonian lady, ſent her a letter intreating the laſt favor; to which ſhe returned the following anſwer:

"When I was a child, I acted in obedience to my parents, and I was very punctual in it; ſince I became a wife, I have been equally obedient to my huſband: and therefore, if you want my conſent to a diſhoneſt action, firſt propoſe the matter to him."

MORAL REPOSITORY.

FOR THE STAR.

Meſſrs. PRINTERS,

If you think the following worthy of a place in your NEW STAR, you will pleaſe to inſert it.

MORALIS.

SHOULD I aſk the Youth of the preſent day, Is the accumulation of ſuch knowledge as is with to make young perſons wiſe and happy, ſo much ſuperior to the heaping together of that knowledge which makes young perſons fooliſh and miſerable in youth, and paves the way to an old age overwhelmed with horror and deſpair? Perhaps ſome of my young fellow ſcholars would wiſh to aſk me, What I mean by the former kind of knowledge? I anſwer, It is the knowledge of God, in his natural and moral perfections; and the knowledge of ourſelves; and the knowledge of mankind in general; and the knowledge of other things, aiming ultimately at the glory of the Great Supreme; and at the good of God's univerſe. By the latter kind of knowledge, I mean that wherein abandoned backneys of abandon'd place themſelves,

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in finding out the blemishes of others, if they can; but if they cannot, they will tell lies enough to sink them to the bottom of hell, in order to have their profane mouths filled with laughter. I say, if the former kind of knowledge tendeth so much to advance our honor & happiness in this world, and is the only way by which we can obtain happiness in the world to come; why do our youth sport themselves by casting their lying aspersions upon persons who carry the marks of piety; and for aught the slanderer knows, have made peace with their God, and obtained a title to an eternal crown of glory?—Young *persons, did I say! are there not* old *as well as young, who are now warming themselves by this kind of spark of their own kindling? Let such take heed, lest one day they get a warming in the flames, where the worm dieth not, and the fire is not quenched!*

BANQUET of COMUS.

A KNAVISH attorney asking a very worthy gentleman, what was Honesty? "What's that to you?" said he, "*meddle with those things that concern you.*"

A POOR malefactor, in Newgate, was lately surprised, as he was looking for a passage he could not find. "Give it me," said the pastor; "I can find *any* passage." "Can you?" says the criminal: "why then I wish you would find me a *passage out of this prison.*"

FLAME is metaphorically applied to women—and spark to men. Whence comes this distinction: the female heart, it is supposed, is more inflammable.

THE *RIVULET.*

COMMUNICATED FOR THE STAR.

To CHLOE, wearing a *lamb skin* dress.

THE *wrinkled Flavia lambkin wears,*
To hide her furrowed trace of years:
With lamb skin pimples Phillis covers
Her imperfections from her lovers:
But why? ah! why should this disgrace,
And hide so much of Chloe's face;
Where each a Cupid must disarm,
And each conceal a native charm?
Chloe, for shame—all arts despise,
Mistrust not those all conquering eyes;
No more thy angel beauty shroud,
But shine like heaven, without a cloud.

EPIGRAM
On a Lady who *squinted.*

IF ancient Poets Argus prize,
Who boasted of a hundred eyes;
Sure greater praise to her is due,
Who looks a hundred ways with two.

ON A HASTY MARRIAGE.

MARRY'D! 'tis well! a mighty blessing!
But poor's the joy, no coin possessing.
In antient times, when folks did wed,
'Twas to be one at "board and bed:"
But bard's his case, who can't afford
His charmer either bed or board!